

DRAFT
NSC BRIEFING

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~~SECRET~~ July 1954

WESTERN PROSPECTS IMPROVE IN IRAQ

I. Strong pro-Western Iraqi government likely soon to replace caretaker cabinet under Prime Minister Umari.

A. This results from recent accord between two strongest Iraqi leaders.

1. Nuri Said -- ~~now~~ willing to co-operate in forming a government despite fact his Constitutional Union Party only won plurality in 9 June elections.
2. Crown Prince Abdul Ilah -- chief adviser to young Prince, who wields influence among parliamentary independents, made trip to Europe to see Nuri.

King Faisal.

19 yrs old

B. Coalition government to be set up under Nuri or his nominee.

1. Will contain five or six members of Nuri's party, and three of four independents.
2. Because of Nuri's bitter opposition, Foreign Minister Jamali, who negotiated US arms aid agreement, will not be in cabinet. May become ambassador to US.
3. Cabinet expected to take office after 29 July, when Nuri

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II. Conservative pre-Western coalition

- A. Would give strength and stability to Iraqi government. However, social and economic reforms pushed by Jamali when prime minister are falling by the wayside.**
- B. Will prove receptive to Turkish-/Pakistani approaches, although experienced Nuri will be a hard bargainer and will not proceed faster than the popular mood permits.**
- C. Iraqi extremists and Communists will bitterly oppose any adherence to pact, but government should be able to control the situation.**

Population 5.1 million Baghdad 500,000

Oil production 18.1 million tons / 1952 Kirkuk
24.3 million tons / 53

Oil royalties \$ 23 million 1952

Constitutional monarchy

Chamber of Deputies - 138 members - 4 yrs - elected

Senate - 29 - 8 yrs - nominated by King

Prime Minister - appointed by King